

**The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services would like to invite you to a forum to discuss the upcoming funding for diesel emission reduction projects under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 on Friday, February 27, 2009 at the DES Auditorium located at 29 Hazen Drive, Concord, NH from 9 to 11 a.m.**

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009, signed into law February 17 by President Obama, includes \$300 million for national and state programs under the Diesel Emission Reduction Act (DERA). Of the \$300 million total, 30 percent (\$88.2 million) will be in direct grants for state DERA programs and the other 70 percent will go to a national DERA competitive grants program. DES anticipates receiving approximately \$1.7 million for the State DERA program which will, in turn, be awarded to the public and private sector for in-state diesel emission reduction projects.

The purpose of the ARRA is to inject money into the US economy quickly. The purpose of DERA is to reduce diesel emissions. Therefore, the ARRA State DERA program and the ARRA National DERA program are being introduced very quickly, will operate under streamlined grant processes, will focus on projects that can be implemented in a very short time frame, and will give priority to projects that create or retain jobs in addition to reducing diesel emissions in a cost effective manner.

**In an effort to help DES identify projects and potential participants that will be able to help the state meet both the diesel emission reduction and job creation goals of ARRA DERA, an open forum will be held on Friday, February 27, 2009 at the DES Auditorium located at 29 Hazen Drive, Concord, NH from 9 to 11 a.m.**

At this meeting DES will present currently available information on both the state and national ARRA DERA program requirements. We will also discuss the pending FY 2009 DERA program as well as stimulus money anticipated to be offered through the US Dept. of Energy's Clean Cities program that can be used for alternative fuel vehicles and fueling infrastructure. The desired outcome of the meeting is to:

- inform interested participants of available funding, the process that the state will use to solicit and select projects, and the associated time lines;
- seek input on what types of projects are feasible given the available funding and time frame; and
- provide a forum in which equipment vendors and equipment users can meet to discuss potential projects.

We hope you are able to join us. Pre-registration is not required, however you will be required to check in and provide a photo ID for access to the DES offices. Please allow time to get through this process prior to the start of the meeting. If you have any questions please contact Rebecca Ohler at (603) 271-6749 or [rebecca.ohler@des.nh.gov](mailto:rebecca.ohler@des.nh.gov).

While specifics for the ARRA DERA may differ, information on basic DERA program requirements and eligible projects can be found at <http://www.epa.gov/otaq/diesel/grantfundarchive.htm>. EPA is also providing daily updates on the stimulus funding at <http://www.epa.gov/otaq/diesel/grantfund.htm>.